

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended): A method to recover one or more ~~desired~~ fluorescent cells from a ~~tissue sample~~, which method comprises microsurgically separating one or more living cells that produce a fluorescent protein from a location, ~~contained in the sample, that produce a first fluorescent protein tissue~~

from any cells contained in the sample ~~in the tissue~~ that do not produce said first fluorescent protein,

thereby recovering one or more living cells that produce said first fluorescent protein, separate from any cells that do not produce said first fluorescent protein.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the cells that produce the first fluorescent protein are tumor cells.

3-4. (canceled)

5. (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the tumor cells are metastatic tumor cells of the lung, bone, lymph node or liver.

6. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the first fluorescent protein is a green fluorescent protein or a red fluorescent protein.

7. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more living cells recovered consists of a single living cell.

8. (currently amended): The method of ~~claim 1~~ claim 2, wherein said cells that produce said first fluorescent protein are present in an immunocompromised laboratory animal.

9. (currently amended): The method of claim 8, which further comprises ~~identifying said cells that produce the first fluorescent protein by monitoring fluorescence and transferring~~

~~portions of said~~ cells that produce said first fluorescent protein to at least one additional immunocompromised animal[[s]].

10. (original): The method of claim 1, which further comprises subjecting the recovered one or more living cells that produce said first fluorescent protein to gene expression analysis.

11. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said cells contained in the ~~sample~~ tissue that do not produce the first fluorescent protein produce a second fluorescent protein that emits a different wavelength from the first fluorescent protein.